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located within the sheath. The self-expanding member having a proximal end, a distal end, a longitudinal axis extending therebetween and an interior. The self-expanding stent further including at least two spaced apart longitudinal legs having distal and proximal ends, the distal ends of the legs attached to the proximal end of the member. The legs extending proximally away from the member and each the leg including a flange adjacent its proximal end, wherein the flanges are set within the grooves of the inner shaft so as to releasably attach the stent to the inner shaft.—

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Amended) A delivery apparatus for a self-expanding stent, said apparatus comprising:
 - a) an outer sheath, comprising an elongated tubular member having distal and proximal ends;
 - b) an inner shaft located coaxially and slidably within said outer sheath, said inner shaft having a distal end and a proximal end, said inner shaft having a removable member on an exterior surface thereof adjacent to its proximal end, said removable member being sized such that it prevents said outer sheath from sliding along said inner shaft proximal to said removable member until it is removed therefrom, said inner

shaft further including at least two grooves disposed thereon.

2. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1 said removable member is semi-cylindrical and snap fits over said inner shaft.
3. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 2 wherein said removable member has an outside diameter larger than an inside diameter of said outer sheath.
4. (Amended) A delivery apparatus for a self-expanding stent, said apparatus comprising:
- a) an outer sheath, comprising an elongated tubular member having distal and proximal ends;
 - b) an inner shaft located coaxially within said outer sheath, said inner shaft having a distal end and a proximal end, said inner shaft having a removable member on an exterior surface thereof adjacent to its proximal end, said removable member being sized such that it prevents said outer sheath from sliding along said inner shaft proximal to said removable member until it is removed therefrom, said distal end of said inner shaft further including at least two grooves disposed thereon; and

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c) a substantially cylindrical self-expanding stent located within said outer sheath, said self-expanding stent having a proximal end, a distal end, a longitudinal axis extending therebetween and an interior, said self-expanding stent further including at least two spaced apart longitudinal legs having distal and proximal ends, said distal ends of said legs attached to said proximal end of said self-expanding stent, said legs extending proximally away from said self-expanding stent, each said leg including a flange adjacent its proximal end, said flanges are set within said grooves of said inner shaft, thereby releasably attaching said self-expanding stent to said inner shaft.

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8. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said legs extend distally and axially from said self-expanding stent when said self-expanding stent is deployed within a body.

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10. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said longitudinal legs are equally spaced about said proximal end of said expandable stent.

11. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 4 wherein said flanges on said longitudinal legs are substantially I-shaped.